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C1

7. (amended) An isolated human neurotrophic growth factor, designated enovin and having the amino acid sequence illustrated in Figure 1 as known as SEQ ID No. 4, encoded by a nucleic acid molecule [as defined in claim 1] encoding said growth factor or a functional equivalent, derivative or bioprecursor of said growth factor.

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8. (amended) A growth factor according to claim 7 comprising the amino acid sequence from position 27 to 139 of the amino acid sequence illustrated in Figure 1 as known as SEQ ID No. 3, or a functional equivalent, derivative or bioprecursor of said growth factor.

9. (amended) A growth factor according to claim 7 comprising the amino acid sequence illustrated in Figure 1 as known as SEQ ID No. 4, or a functional equivalent, derivative or bioprecursor of said growth factor.

17. (amended) A neurotrophic growth factor or a functional equivalent, derivative or bioprecursor thereof, expressed by a host cell [according to claim 13] transformed or transfected with an expression vector.

B3

18. (amended) A neurotrophic growth factor or a functional equivalent, derivative or bioprecursor thereof, expressed by a transgenic cell, tissue or organism [according to claim 15] comprising a transgene capable of expressing a neurotrophic growth factor enovin encoded by a DNA molecule encoding a neurotrophic growth factor designated enovin and having the amino acid sequence illustrated in Figure 1 as known as SEQ ID No. 4 or a functional equivalent, derivative or bioprecursor of said growth factor.

B4

41. (amended) An isolated human neurotrophic growth factor comprising a polypeptide which has at least 85% sequence identity with the amino acid sequence